

opaque shelly lamina, the septum between them being of the same thickness and structure; and between the outer surface of this tube of the siphon and the inner surface of the cylindrical outer sheath or tube, there is deposited at each end of the central septum, between the two siphonal tubes, a transverse space filled with a loose, spongy, cellular shelly texture.

Mr. Cuming has two small tubes from California which appear to belong to the genus *Teredo*, which have the lower or larger end of the tube closed with a single hemispherical cap like those described in my former paper. In one the cap is simple and terminal, and the apex of the tube is oblong and quite simple; in the other the cap at the lower end of the tube is larger, rather distorted, and bent on one side of the axis of the tube, and the aperture at the apex of the tube is partially divided by a series of plates, which have a prominence in the middle on each side, forming an imperfect division of the cavity.

I may add, that the siphonal end of the tube being divided into two distinct tubes is not a distinctive character of *Furcella*, as we have in the British Museum a *Teredo* or rather a *Xylotrya* from Sierra Leone which has some of its tubes furnished with two distinct siphonal apertures, and others in which the tubes are only partially separated, and others with a simple aperture.

The Cloisonnaire de la Méditerranée of M. Matheron (Annales des Sciences et de l'Industrie du Midi de la France, vols. 1 & 2), quoted by Deshayes (Ann. Sci. Nat. xi. 245), is evidently a *Teredo*, furnished with shelly valves and palettes, and not a *Furcella*.

6. ON A NEW GENUS AND SEVERAL NEW SPECIES OF UROPELTIDÆ, IN THE COLLECTION OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM. BY DR. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S., F.L.S., PRES. ENT. SOC., ETC.

These animals, when first discovered, were arranged with *Typhlops* by Schneider; and afterwards Cuvier, who had previously regarded them as belonging to that genus, formed for some of them a genus under the name of *Uropeltis*. In the 'Catalogue of the Specimens of Lizards in the Collection of the British Museum' (12mo. 1845), I formed for them a family under the name of *Uropeltidæ*, and divided the species into three genera, each containing a single species. Lately I described a fourth genus named *Morina* in the 'Proceedings' of this Society (1858).

Professor Johann Müller, in an article on the 'Osteology of Reptiles' in Tiedemann's 'Zeitschrift für Physiologie' for 1831 (vol. iv.), gave an account of the osteology of the two genera *Rhinophis* and *Uropeltis*. Schlegel in 1837 regarded them as a genus under the name of *Pseudotyphlops*, and noticed three species.

Having occasion to re-examine the various specimens which we have received since the printing of the Catalogue above referred to, I have found several additional species.

The family may be divided into three groups, according to the form of the tail.

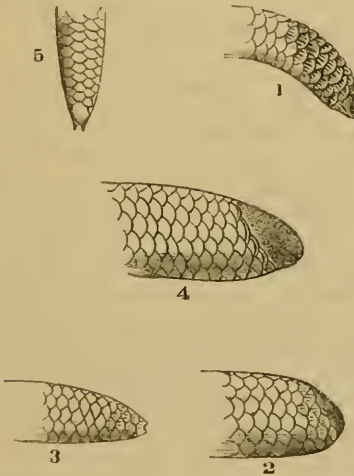
I. *The tail obliquely truncated with a flat superior disk.*

1. *Siloboura*. Disk oblong, covered with separate, two or four keeled scales.

2. *Uropelepis*. Disk circular, covered with a single tubercular plate.

II. *The tail subtruncate ; end convex, rounded, covered with a single horny tubercular shield.*

3. *Mytilia*. Caudal shield many-keeled ; nose more or less acute.



1. *Siloboura Elliotti*.

2. *Mytilia Templetonii*.

3. *Plectrurus Perrotetti*.

4. *Mytilia unimaculata*.

5. *Mytilia melanogaster*.

III. *Tail oblong, compressed, covered with separate 3-keeled scales ; tip covered with a small compressed cap-like spinose shield.*

4. *MAUDIA*.

Instead of this family being characterized by the tail being "cylindrical, obliquely truncated above," it ought to be described as tail cylindrical or compressed, covered with keeled scales, which are separate or more or less united into a horny shield,—the scales on the tip of the tail being always united and many-keeled.

1. Tail cylindrical, obliquely truncated, with a flat superior disk.
Uropeltina.

1. SILOBOURA, Gray.

Tail obliquely truncated ; disk oblong, covered with rhombic, two- or four-keeled scales, the scales on the lower edge of the disk larger, tubercular above, and having two acute tubercles on its sharp lower edge.

* Scales of caudal disk four-keeled.

1. SILOBOURA ELLIOTI (fig. 1).

B.M.

Siloboura ceylonica, Gray, Cat. Brit. Mus. 142 (not Cuvier).

Caudal disk oblong, elongate; scales of the disk four-keeled; brown, with a narrow yellow streak on each side of the neck, a broad yellow band in front of the vent continued in a band on each side of the tail.

Var. Larger scales of caudal disk three- or four-keeled.

Hab. Madras (*Walter Elliot, Esq.*).

** Scales of caudal disk two-keeled.

2. SILOBOURA CEYLONICA.

B.M.

Uropeltis Ceylonicus, Cuvier, R. A. ii. 76 ; Cocteau, Mag. Zool. 1833, t. 2 (not *S. Ceylonica*, Gray, Cat.); Müller in Tiedemann's Zeitsch. Phys. iv. 252, 273. t. 21. f. 4, 5, skull?

Siloboura Ceylonicus, Kelaart, Prod. Fauna, 156.

Pseudotyphlops ceylanicus, Schlegel, Abbild. 45.

Coloburus Ceylonicus, Dum. & Bib. Erp. Gen. vii. 164. t. 59. f. 3.

Caudal disk roundish, oblong ; scales of disk two-keeled ; black, a broad irregular yellow band on each side of the neck from the angle of the mouth, and some yellowish marbling on the sides of the body becoming more obscure behind ; a broad yellow cross band in front of the vent, continued in a broad band to the sides of the tail.

Hab. Ceylon.

2. UROPELTIS.

Tail obliquely truncated ; disk roundish, covered with a single flat roundish granulated shield.

1. UROPELTIS GRANDIS.

B.M.

Uropeltis (sp.?), Kelaart, Prodromus, 155.

"*Uropeltis grandis*, Kelaart." In Brit. Mus.

Caudal disk subcircular, with large scattered tubercles ; nose subacute, rather produced ; dark brown ; chin and beneath yellowish brown, with some of the scales dark brown in the centre near the hinder edge.

Hab. Ceylon (*Kelaart*). Dr. Kelaart's type specimen.

2. *UROPELTIS PARDALIS*.

B.M.

“*Uropeltis pardalis*, Kelaart.”

Nose convex, rounded; caudal disk subcircular, scarcely tubercular; back black, with numerous small white specks on the back and sides; caudal disk brown, smooth, with a narrow white edge above and a white spot on each side of the lower edge; belly white, three or four irregular rows of oblong transverse black spots.

Hab. Ceylon (*Kelaart*). Dr. Kelaart's type specimen.

3. *UROPELTIS? PHILIPPINUS*.

Uropeltis Philippinus, Müller, Thienem. Zeitsch. für Physiol. iv. 248, 274. t. 22. f. 1 *a, b, c*, skull; f. 3, animal nat. size; Dum. & Bib. Erp. Gen. vii. 161. t. 59. f. 2.

Rhinophis Philippinus, Boie, Isis, 1827, 513; Müller, l. c. 248.

Typhlops Philippinus, Cuvier, R. Anim. ii. 72.

Pseudotyphlops philippinus, Schlegel, Abbild. 44 (not figured).

Hab. Philippines.

This species is unknown to me. One specimen in the Paris Museum.

II. *The tail cylindrical, subtruncate; end covered with a single horny convex tuberculated shield; nose acute.*

3. *MYTILIA*.

Caudal disk convex, covered with a single convex shield, covered with small spine-like ridges; rostral scales produced, more or less acute.

Rhinophis, Dum. & Bib. Erp. Gen. vii. 150.

* *Caudal shield with a slight perpendicular keel; rostral scales square, rather acute.*

1. *MYTILIA GERRARDI*.

B.M.

Mytilia Gerrardi, Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1858, p. 57. Rept. pl. 13.

Caudal disk large, with a slight perpendicular terminal keel; black; white spot over the upper edge of disk.

Hab. Ceylon (*R. Templeton, Esq.*, 1845).

2. *MYTILIA TEMPLETONII* (fig. 2).

B.M.

Caudal disk small, covered with radiating lines of uniform spines, with a slight perpendicular apical keel; blackish-brown, with the middle of the scales rather paler, a large irregular yellow streak on each side of the neck, and a few yellow cross-bands on the sides, becoming small and more indistinct behind; a yellow spot on each side of the vent, extending in an irregular narrow line to the end of the tail.

Hab. Ceylon (*R. Templeton, Esq.*).

** *Caudal shield convex, rounded, without any terminal keel; rostral shield compressed, produced, very acute.*—? *Rhinophis*, Hempr.

3. MYTILIA UNIMACULATA (fig. 4).

B.M.

Uniform grey-brown (in spirits), with pale edges to the scales, those of the under side being the broadest, with a single oblong transverse yellow spot in front of the vent.

Hab. Ceylon (*Thwaites*).

We have two specimens of this species,—one not in a good state, rather discoloured, being uniform red-brown, from the Haslar collection, and another, in good state, received from Mr. Thwaites in 1856. They both have the same preanal spot and keelless caudal shield.

The species is most like the *Pseudotyphlops oxyrhynchus* figured by Schlegel, Abbild. 43. t. 12, which is said to be the *Typhlops oxyrhynchus* of Schneider, Amph. ii. 341; the *Rhinophis oxyrhynchus*, "Hemp. Berl. Mag.," Wagner, Syst. Amp. 195; the *Rhinophis punctata*, Müller in Tiedem. Zeitsch. Physiol. ii. 248, 273. t. 21. f. 1, 2, 3, skull; t. 22. f. 1, head shield; f. 1, *d, e, f*, caudal disk, which Schneider says came from Coromandel, and Professor Johann Müller from Guiana: but I think the latter must be a mistake, as no species of the family has yet been found on the Western continent. The specimen figured by Schlegel in the Leyden Museum differs from the one here described, chiefly in having no yellow spot in front of the vent, and in being provided with a dark spot in the centre of the scales, forming a central and some lateral lines on the back, and a single line of spots on the underside of the tail and the hinder part of the belly near the vent. I have no specimen which agrees with it in these characters.

It is doubtful if Schlegel's figures of this genus differ from *Morina*; but Professor John Müller describes the tail as covered at the end with a "hard oval horny shield," and he says *Uropeltis* has a caudal shield exactly like *Rhinophis*, and rough with granulations; he further observes that there is no other difference between the external form and the skull of the genera, except in the form of the rostral shield, which in *Rhinophis* is sharp and keeled and produced. At any rate *Rhinophis* and *Morina* were not established on the same kind of characters, and the sharpness or bluntness of the rostral shield differs in the species of both genera; and though the name and character is applicable to this kind, the nose of the other species of the genera more resembles that of genera *Siloboura*, *Uropeltis*, and *Maudia*.

*** *Caudal shield small, with a terminal transverse dentated keel; rostral shield square, rather acute.*—*Crealia*.

4. MYTILIA MELANOGASTER (fig. 5).

Above brown (in spirits), with indistinct pale lines between the series of scales, formed by very small pale dots on the outer sides of

the scales ; sides white from lips to vent ; belly black, white-spotted ; tail above and below like the back, dark, with indistinct pale lines ; caudal shield tridentate at the tip.

Hab. Ceylon (*Thwaites*).

We procured through Mr. Cuming two specimens of this species, which were sent home by Mr. Thwaites in 1854.

See also—

1. *Rhinophis Philippinus*, Dum. & Bib. *Erp. Gen.* vii. 134. t. 57. f. 1.
2. *R. oxyrhynchus*, l. c. 156.
3. *R. punctatus*, l. c. 157, only known from figures.

III. *Tail oblong, compressed, covered with separate three-keeled scales ; tip covered with a small compressed cap-shaped spinose shield.*—*Plecturina*.

4. PLECTRURUS.

Tail oblong, compressed, covered with separate three-keeled scales ; apex furnished with a small compressed cap-shaped shield, covered with small spines, and ending in a central perpendicular spinose keel. Nose rounded, rather produced. The central ventral series of scales rather broader than the other scales, six-sided.

1. PLECTRURUS PERROTETTI (fig. 3).

B.M.

Pale brown (in spirits), paler beneath, with a more or less large or distinct oblong transverse yellow spot in front of the vent.

Plectrurus Perrotetti, Dum. & Bib. *Erp. Gen.* vii. 167. t. 59. f. 4, skull ; t. 76. f. 1.

Hab. Madras (*J. C. Jerdon, Esq.*, 1846) ; “Neelgherries.”

Var. 1. With series of obscure small pale spots between each series of the dorsal scales.

Var. 2. Tail with a central line of white spots on the upper side, and with a row of white spots on each side near the vent, converging and united in the middle of the end of the tail ; hinder part of upper lip white.

Var. 3. Scales of the tail nearly smooth ; in other specimens these scales are very distinctly three-keeled.

We have a smaller specimen of this animal, which we received from the Fort Pitt Museum, as having been sent by Mr. Ford from the Cape of Good Hope ; but as they had many specimens from India in that Museum, I suspect this habitat is a mistake, as the genus has not yet been received with certainty from Africa, and it is scarcely likely that an Indian species should be also found in that country.